

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a safety device for a motor vehicle with a steering column arrangement having length adjustment and height adjustment, wherein the length adjustment is effected with slot guidance, which runs linearly in the longitudinal direction of the steering column arrangement, and an engagement mechanism cooperating with the slot guidance for making length adjustment, the improvement wherein the height adjustment contains a swiveling mechanism, which engages with the engagement mechanism of the length adjustment.

2. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein the swiveling mechanism contains at least one swiveling lever, which at one end engages with the engagement mechanism of the length adjustment and with at other end is linked in a swiveling manner with stationary part of the motor vehicle.

3. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein the swiveling mechanism contains a stabilization component.

4. In a safety device according to Claim 3, the improvement wherein the stabilization component includes at least one guide lever, which engages with one end with the engagement mechanism of the length adjustment and which with its other end is connected by an articulation swiveled to the motor vehicle, and wherein each guide lever contains a length compensation.

5. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein, for the fixing of a setting position of the steering column arrangement, a clamping device is provided which engages with the engagement mechanism of the length adjustment.

6. In a safety device according to Claim 5, the improvement wherein the clamping device contains a plurality of clamping plates, which can be actuated via the engagement mechanism of the length adjustment.

7. In a safety device according to Claim 6, the improvement wherein one of a plurality of swiveling levers and a plurality of guide levers are provided received between the clamping plates so that, during the clamping of a setting position of the steering column arrangement by the clamping plates via the engagement mechanism of

the length adjustment the one of the plurality of swiveling levers and plurality of guide levers so received, and the height adjustment are fixed.

8. In a safety device according to Claims 5, the improvement wherein the clamping device contains a holding device that can be actuated with respect to the engagement mechanism for actuation of the clamping device.

9. In a safety device according to Claim 8, the improvement wherein the holding device contain one of screw, screw threading, nut, lever and lug.

10. In a safety devices according to Claim 5, the improvement wherein the clamping device contain a plurality of clamping plates and at least one clamping piece associated with the clamping plates, which clamping piece achieves a clamping effect via an overlap with a clamping plate.

11. In a safety device according to Claim 10, the improvement wherein the clamping piece has a slight curvature to enable the highest clamping force to be applied at its end areas.

12. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein the slot guidance is provided on both sides of the steering column arrangement and contains guidance slots which run linearly in the longitudinal direction of the steering column arrangement, and wherein the engagement mechanism include an engagement part which is applied against only one side of the steering column arrangement.

13. In a safety device according to Claim 12, the improvement wherein the engagement part has a middle section, applied against the external contour of the steering column arrangement, and engagement ends, which are juxtaposed to the steering column arrangement.

14. In a safety device according to Claim 12, the improvement wherein the engagement mechanism is located above the steering column arrangement and around it.

15. In a safety device according to Claim 14, the improvement wherein the engagement mechanism is located around an upper half of the steering column arrangement.

16. In a safety device according to Claim 14 the improvement wherein the engagement devices (8) can be swiveled for the actuation of the clamping devices (14).

17. In a safety device according to Claim 16, the improvement wherein the engagement mechanism can be swiveled 60°.

18. In a safety device according to Claim 16, the improvement wherein the engagement mechanism can be swiveled 30°.

19. In a safety device according to Claim 16, the improvement wherein the engagement mechanism can be swiveled from a mid position in both directions.

20. In a safety device according to Claims 12, the improvement wherein the engagement part is a bolt, which contains bendings, by means of which it is led around the steering column arrangement.

21. In a safety device according to Claim 20, the improvement wherein the bolt has a circular cross section.

22. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein the length adjustment is carried along during a height adjustment of the steering column arrangement.

23. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein the length adjustment height adjustment are located laterally next to the steering column arrangement.

24. In a safety device according to Claim 1, the improvement wherein the slot guidance of the length adjustment includes at least one guidance slot formed in an adjustment plate.

25. In a safety device according Claim 1, the improvement wherein a load removal device is arranged in such a manner that the weight of the steering column arrangement is at least partially compensated.

26. In a safety device according to Claim 23, the improvement wherein the load removal device includes a flat spiral spring which acts between the motor vehicle and the steering column arrangement.

27. In a safety device according to Claim 24, the improvement wherein the flat spiral spring cooperates with the swiveling mechanism and a base plate with which the swiveling mechanism engages.

28. In a safety method for a vehicle including the steps of providing length and height adjustment to a steering column arrangement, where the length adjustment is

carried out by a slot guidance which runs linearly in the longitudinal direction of the steering column arrangement, and fixing the steering column arrangement by an engagement mechanism which is received in the slot guidance, the improvement of the carrying out the height adjustment by a swiveling of the steering column arrangement by means of a swiveling mechanism which engages with the engagement mechanism of the length adjustment.